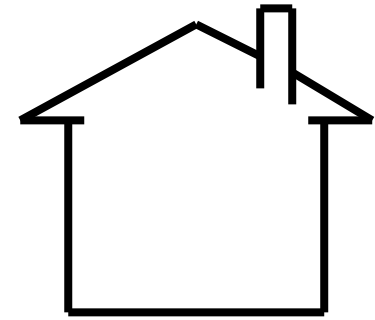


# THE CHRISTIAN HOME



## Agenda:

4th Session

- What is the role of the wife and mother?

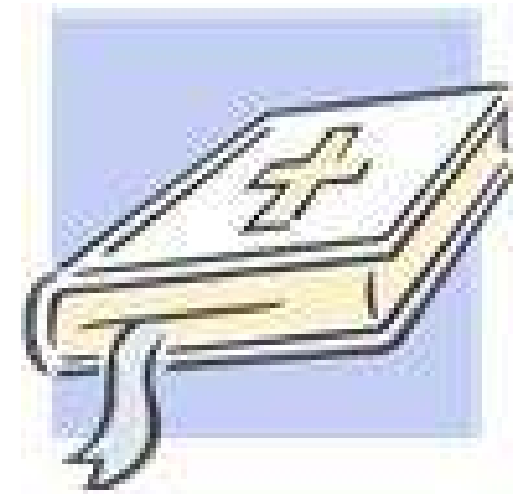
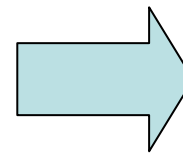
Our study is not a  
Blind leap in the  
Dark!



# THE CHRISTIAN HOME

## ❑ Making a Christian Home

The Christian home must be built according to a precise plan...



God's plan! The only plan that will be successful!



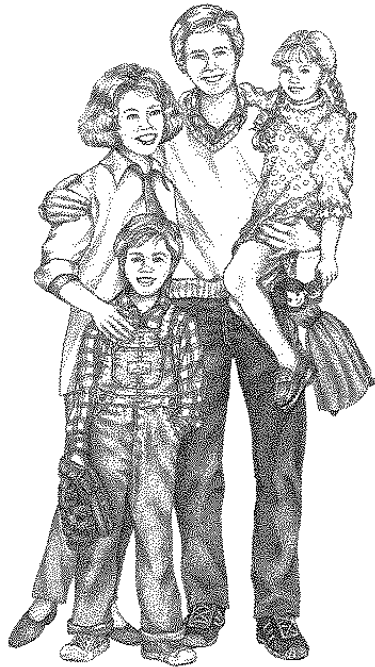
## THE CHRISTIAN HOME

### ❑ Making a Christian Home.

The role of a wife and mother has been greatly threatened and damaged in the past 50 years. The pressure, propaganda, and humanistic philosophies under the guise of improvements for women, skewed ideas of equal rights for women, and our societies increasing secular view of life has denied, confused, and in many cases destroyed the biblically defined role for women. As a result, to discuss the biblical role is often emotionally charged, and difficult because of so many preconceived notions. We must keep in mind that Satan desires to destroy the institution of the home. The statistics given in the first handout show his success. One of his primary actions is focused on destroying the home through the wife and mother. This is precisely what he did in the Garden of Eden. As we move closer to the time of Christ's second return, and the continual decline of society, we as Christians must not abandon the clear timeless teaching of the Word of God. We must be committed to establishing our homes on the Rock (Mat 7:24), trusting that God knows precisely what is best for us, in contrast to the passing philosophies of a Christ rejecting society.

THE  
CHRISTIAN  
HOME

❑ Making a Christian Home.



*“An excellent wife, who can find? For her worth is far above jewels.”*

Proverbs 31:10

**And Keep!**

## THE CHRISTIAN HOME

### ❑ Making a Christian Home.



“Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”

1 Pet 5:8

“Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual *forces* of wickedness in the heavenly places.”

Eph 6:11-12

## THE CHRISTIAN HOME

### □ The Role of the Wife and mother is:



- **To submit to the headship of her husband (Eph 5:22-24):**

- The idea of submission is not only a command for wives in relation to their husband, it is a true biblical attitude commanded and taught for all Christians regarding relationships in general, and God determined authority roles in particular (Phil 2:3-4; 1 Pet 5:5; Rom 13:1; Heb 13:17). The command for submission by wives to their husband is first an attitude, but more than an attitude. It is specific to the God decreed role in the **institution** of marriage.

## THE CHRISTIAN HOME

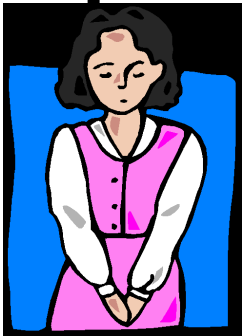
### □ The Role of the Wife and Mother is:



- The word *submit* is from the Greek word ὑποτάσσω (ὑπο "under"; τασσο, "to line up," "to get in order," or "to arrange"), which, in a military sense, means "to rank beneath or under." **This order of submission in the family is commanded within the same context as the order of the Godhead (Eph 5:25).** It is not based on one being superior to another (Gal 3:28), but for the sake of effective harmony and the benefit of effective service and functionality.
- **This submission by the wife is a role, just as Christ submitted to the will of the Father in His role.** It is stated in Scripture as built on the order of creation (Gen 2:21-23; 1 Cor 11:7-9; 1 Tim 2:13-14), and the decree from the fall of mankind under the curse of sin (Gen 3:16). This order, role, and purpose of God supersedes and transcends all cultures, trends, and other philosophies.

## THE CHRISTIAN HOME

### □ The Role of the Wife and Mother is:



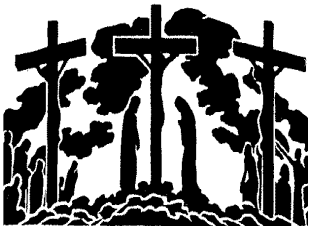
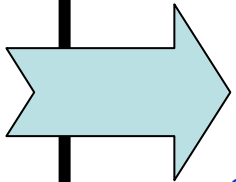
- This submission of the wife to her husband is an issue of obedience **as though the wife was doing precisely the same as submitting to Christ Himself** (Eph 5:22). God is the one who created and defined the role of the woman. This role is not something arbitrary or without purpose, but for the well-being of mankind through the sacred institution of marriage.
- Life in society whereby multiple decisions, problems, opportunities, and variables exist to challenge daily living requires organization and structure. God has provided the perfect order in His Word. Just as Christ is the head of the church, so is the husband head of the wife and family (Eph 5:23). **The church does not operate independently of, or in opposition to the will of Christ. Neither is the wife to function independently of, or in opposition to the will of the husband. This is the design of God so that the function of the home will be wise, harmonious and consistent.**



## THE CHRISTIAN HOME

### □ The Role of the Wife and Mother is:

- The husband is the **“savior of the body”** or home, as the responsible head to keep the home established, safe, peaceful, stable, and joyful (Eph 5:23).
- The husband is accountable before God for his headship of the home (Eph 5:24).
- The wife is to submit to her husband in all matters of their relationship (spiritual, physical, social, and financial), and in all matters of the home management (Eph 5:24). It is not the wife’s leeway to pick and choose when she will submit, and when she will not submit. **This submittal is intended for matters that do not violate God’s will or commands (Acts 5:29).**
- The responsibility of the husband is to love his wife as Christ loved the church (Eph 5:25). This kind of love is complete self-giving love. As Christ gave Himself completely, even through His horrid death on the cross for the church, the husband has a clear picture and example of the kind of love that must be rendered at all times as he regards, and interacts through life’s



## THE CHRISTIAN HOME

### The Role of the Wife and Mother is:

circumstances with his wife. This kind of love is the only kind of love that will function appropriately with his wife's total submission (1 Pet 3:7). Being knowledgeable of, and committed to, this same kind of love role is the key to the marriage relationship, and the lasting function of the home. **All other activity of the home fits under these two key roles – submission by the wife, and complete self-giving love by the husband.**

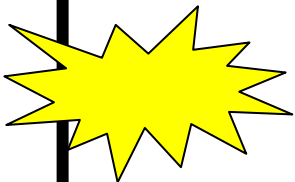
- The wife's submission must be honored with the obvious demonstration and backdrop of the self-giving love of the husband.
- **The wife's submission to her husband not only shows her commitment to the marriage, but her commitment to God, her trust in the Lord's Word, and her love for her husband.**
- The carrying out of the two roles in the context of the example relationship among the Godhead, and the example relationship between Christ and His church, will

## THE CHRISTIAN HOME

### □ The Role of the Wife and Mother is:

demonstrate a perfectly functioning marriage and home. It means practically that the husband and wife will be making decisions together. He will listen to His wife and seek to please her, and she will listen to him and seek to please him knowing that the final decision will be made in love and her best interest. **The difficult matters will be overcome in the context of obedient daily living and trusting Christ.** By doing this, the marriage and the home will function free from strife, disjointedness, selfishness, and unnecessary stress.

- Where these two roles become obviously skewed – that is the wife no longer submits to the husband, or the husband has ceased to function in loving his wife completely as commanded; **either of the offended side must seek to continue their own responsibility and prayerfully seek the Lord on behalf of their marriage and home. They should further seek counsel and guidance from church elders.**



## THE CHRISTIAN HOME

### □ The Role of the Wife and Mother is:

#### ○ The concept of mutual submission:

- Even though the primary role of submission in the marriage relationship belongs to the wife, there is also a beautiful mutuality of submission that must be understood (1 Pet 5:5) as a necessary attitude. This submission for the husband falls under the understanding of his commitment of complete love. For example in 1st Cor 7:3-4 in discussing relationships of intimacy between husband and wife Paul commands a mindset of mutual submission for both husband and wife. This demonstrates the overriding attitude that should prevail within the marriage.
- This mutual submission concept of each spouse placing the other spouse ahead of themselves does not negate the leadership responsibility of the husband, **but it recognizes and fosters the mutual attitude of appropriate love that will be seen in a submissive desire to please one another. It is a basic principle of biblical love fundamental for the vitality of family life.**



## THE CHRISTIAN HOME

### □ The Role of the Wife and Mother is:

- **To be the keeper of the home:**
  - Studying the roles of the wife and mother in Scripture leads us to understand the wife's primary responsibility is to focus on her husband and her family.
    - At the creation of woman her purpose was described by God to **be a helper for man** (Gen 2:18-22). Without the woman man was described as incomplete.
    - The woman is different than man, but **that difference is a complement** (1 Cor 11:11). She was made to fulfill the needs, **that which is lacking, and the inadequacies of her husband** (Prov 31:12; Ps 128:3).
  - Under the headship of the husband, the wife is to function as the primary supervisor, keeper, and sustainer of the home environment (Titus 2:5; Prov 31:10-31).
    - Titus 2:3-5 makes it clear the focus is on working hard to make the home a place of warmth and love for the husband and the children. **Anything less than this is regarded as dishonoring the Word of God, or being disobedient to God's command.**



## THE CHRISTIAN HOME

### □ The Role of the Wife and Mother is:

- **To be the keeper of the home continued...**

- Proverbs 31 elaborates the many domestic duties, and further shows the appropriate freedom of the wife and mother to steward many tasks, and the high regard she appropriately receives from her family.



- This keeping of the home environment is especially important when children are present. God has crafted the woman to deal with children in **a naturally graceful compassionate manner** (1 Thess 2:7). In a general sense, whereas man finds his expression of value in ruling (Gen 1:26-28), **the woman is designed to find her full expression of value in bearing children** (1 Tim 2:15).
- The idea of keeper at home carries with it the concept of the wife and mother's focus being on her own home. The wife and mother **is to spend her energy on her own family and affairs**, and is to avoid busy body activity that may lead to interference or gossip associated with other families (1 Tim 3:11; 5:13).

## THE CHRISTIAN HOME

### □ The Role of the Wife and Mother is:

- **To be the keeper of the home continued...**



- She finds in her focus on her home environment a reward of praise and personal fulfillment (Prov 31:26; 28-29).
- She works effectively, freely, and industriously in the home environment. She demonstrates such positive values as frugality, diligence, ambition, creativity, and trustworthiness in keeping her family fed, clothed, happy, and nurtured in wisdom (Prov 31:10-31). Such a wife and mother is spoken of as having a value far above jewels (Prov 31:10).

- **To be diligent to maintain a flourishing spiritual life (1 Pet 3:1-2; 7; 1 Tim 5:4; 14-15).**

- She must foster an absolute commitment to Christ (Gen 18:19; Josh 24:15; 1 Thess 1:9; Luke 4:8).
- She must be committed to the Word of God to understand it, and be an example as well as teacher to the family (discussed under the next bullet). She will also be used of God as a helper to guide and support her husband in righteous ways (Prov 31:26; Acts 18:26; 1 Sam 25:37).



# THE CHRISTIAN HOME

## □ The Role of the Wife and Mother is:

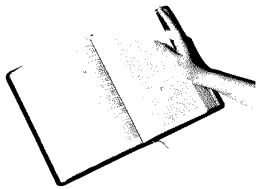
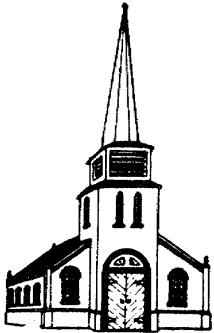
**To be diligent to maintain a flourishing spiritual life (1 Pet 3:1-2; 7; 1 Tim 5:4; 14-15) continued...**

- She is actively committed to a local assembly where the truth of God is taught, and sincere worship takes place (Heb 10:25). This is both for personal development and ability to be a blessing to the family (2 Tim 1:5).

- **To be the primary nurturer in rearing the children:** She **teaches** (Eph 6:20; Prov 31:26-28; 1 Tim 5:13,14; Prov 1:8 & 6:20). She also has responsibilities to **discipline** (Prov 29:15; 30:17; Eph 6:1-2), and maintains **the closest of relationship** with her children (Prov 4:3; 10:1; 23:25).

- **To be her husband's lover:**

- The same principles apply here to the wife that applied when addressing the husband. It is essential to understand the need to keep the love relationship healthy. A failure here can contribute to temptations that confront the husband. **The wife should be the husband's best friend (other than Christ).** They should be heirs together of the grace of life (1 Pet 3:7). Her husband needs to know that other than Christ he has





## THE CHRISTIAN HOME

### □ The Role of the Wife and Mother is:

- **To be the husband's lover continued...**  
first place in her life (1 Pet 3:6). **He should know that he comes before all others** (children, parents, friends), and before any other interests that she may have.
- The wife should **treat her husband with chivalry**. She should be respectful of his needs, and concerns – this is the true concept of love. She should treat his relationship with her as her most valuable concern outside of Jesus Christ (1 Pet 3:7; Prov 31:28).
- The wife **should be a physical lover** according to the directions and example given in God's Word (1 Cor 7:1-5; Song of Solomon). This kind of love is intimate, tender, sacrificial, and appropriate. It is also discreet and personal between the married couple and should not be shared with anyone. The marriage bed is sacred.



## THE CHRISTIAN HOME

### □ The Role of the Wife and Mother is:

- **To be her husbands #1 supporter (1 Pet 3:1-6):**

There are a number of proverbs concerning **the tendency of some women to nag** (Prov 19:13; 21:9; 25:24). Nag means to torment by consistent faultfinding. In any marriage, neither person will be perfect, and the more the spouses know each other the more they will see each others faults. The Scripture is clear that “love covers a multitude of sins” (1 Pet 4:8). **A nagging tendency should be nipped. It is destructive to the marriage relationship.**





THE  
CHRISTIAN  
HOME

Questions or  
Comments!